



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** David A. Hulseberg  
Village Manager

**FROM:** William J. Heniff, AICP *WJH*  
Director of Community Development

**DATE:** March, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Preservation of Public, Educational and Governmental  
Access Channels

As you are aware, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has opened a case on preserving public, educational and governmental (PEG) channels as they have always been provided. We are concerned about the preservation of PEG Access as a needed community resource and oppose attempts by AT&T, Comcast or others to prevent easy affordable access to a quality product.

Programming offered on Lombard's local access channel is of unique local interest and needs to be readily accessible to viewers and not placed in a format which is inferior or less accessible than other channels. If Lombard's channels are made less accessible than viewers have come to expect, many subscribers we now reach will not receive valuable information. It is unacceptable that local residents would be deprived of easy access to government information, education of our children and emergency alerts.

The Village's goal is to foster localism and prevent inferior and discriminatory treatment of PEG channels to the detriment of the community. PEG channels are a critical and irreplaceable resource for our community. Whereas, we strongly urge the Village of Lombard Board of Trustees to adopt approaches that effectively promote PEG Access and prevent industry practices that marginalize or eliminate PEG channels.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends adoption of the attached resolution of support to the FCC to support the preservation of PEG channel access in an affordable and readily accessible format.

Please place this item on the request agenda on the March 5, 2009 agenda of the Board of Trustees. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Attachments  
WJH/jmk

**RESOLUTION**  
**R 67-09**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PRESERVATION OF PUBLIC, EDUCATIONAL AND  
GOVERNMENTAL ACCESS CHANNELS**

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has opened a case on preserving public, educational and governmental (PEG) channels as they have always been provided; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Lombard is concerned about the preservation of PEG access as a needed community resource and oppose attempts by AT&T, Comcast or others to prevent easy affordable access to a quality product; and

**WHEREAS**, programming offered on Lombard's local access channel is of unique local interest and needs to be readily accessible to viewers and not placed in a format which is inferior or less accessible than other channels; and

**WHEREAS**, if Lombard's channels are made less accessible than viewers have come to expect, many subscribers may not receive valuable information; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village finds it unacceptable that local residents would be deprived of easy access to government information, education of our children and emergency alerts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village's goal is to foster localism and prevent inferior and discriminatory treatment of PEG channels to the detriment of the community, as PEG channels are a critical and irreplaceable resource for our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved** that the Village of Lombard supports the preservation of PEG channel access in an affordable and readily accessible format. Furthermore, the Village of Lombard strongly urges the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to take such reasonable and necessary steps to ensure that PEG access to the public is maintained and that such access is not marginalized or eliminated.

Adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009.

Ayes: Trustees Gron, Tross, O'Brien, Moreau, Fitzpatrick and Soderstrom

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Approved this, 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009.

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William J. Mueller, Village President

ATTEST:

  
Brigitte O'Brien, Village Clerk

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